



WASTELINE

October 2017
City of Omaha
Jean Stothert, Mayor

Recycling, Garbage and Yardwaste Information for the Citizens of Omaha, Nebraska
Public Works Department Robert G. Stubbe, P.E., Director Environmental Quality Division

**Thanksgiving will affect
the collection schedule on
Thursday & Friday.**

**Christmas and New Years
Day will affect the collection
schedule all week.**

New Collection Contract Progress

DEVELOPMENT CONTINUES on the City's next solid waste collection contract. The new contract must be in place, with the contractor ready to start, by January 1, 2021.

The 'Special Edition' of **WASTELINE** mailed in July covered all the steps taken by the City so far to be ready for the next collection contract. Four Open Houses were held to explain and answer questions about the upcoming contract. Any additional comments may be sent to the Mayor's Hotline (hotline@cityofomaha.org, 1819 Farnam St, Omaha, NE 68183-1000) until November 15, 2017.

SCS Engineers has been hired to assist the City through the process of developing and writing the new contract. This winter will be used to develop and write the bid document. Then in the early spring it will be available for potential bidders. Bid opening, evaluation, selection, and approval by council is expected by the end of 2018.

The Council will have three readings of the ordinance that will approve the selected bid. The

second reading is the public hearing.

There were several common themes heard at the Open Houses, and the responses boil down to these:

- ▶ It's inevitable—things will change
- ▶ Time will be needed to adjust to the change
- ▶ Omaha is not the first city to change to carts for collection
- ▶ It's a system/contract for the masses, not an individualized contract
- ▶ You must use a cart
- ▶ 96-gallon will be the standard issue size cart
- ▶ A smaller size cart will be available to residents once they determine the standard size cart is too large
- ▶ Unlimited yardwaste collection causes a challenge that must be addressed
- ▶ The contractor will buy the carts, but the City will own them
- ▶ Residents are responsible for the care of the carts. Normal wear and tear is covered, but purposeful damage is not

The length of the contract is expected to be 10-years, with the potential for extensions. The successful bidder will invest upwards of \$50



million in carts and collection vehicles for the Omaha contract. Trucks powered by natural gas will be required. These trucks are quieter and more environmentally friendly. Omaha's current collection contract costs \$14.4 million per year. The new contract is expected to cost more, potentially significantly more, than what the City currently pays for service.

Keep informed about the next contract by visiting <http://future.wasteline.org>. There you can read the Special Edition of **WASTELINE**, the studies, surveys, cart dimensions, and other related material.

Public Works staff will also be at the Fall Home & Garden Expo, October 20 and 21, CenturyLink Center, to explain and answer questions about the next contract.

O!

SCS ENGINEERS

Environmental Consultants and Contractors

Favor de llamar al
402-444-5238 si tiene
alguna duda sobre el
sistema de colección de
basura en Omaha.



More Locations to Recycle Glass

ON OCTOBER 12, Mayor Stothert opened Omaha's new glass only drop-off sites. Two new glass only drop-off sites are part of a joint effort between the City, Ripple Glass (Kansas City) that processes the recycled glass, and Keep Omaha Beautiful Inc. Keep Omaha Beautiful wrote a grant to the Nebraska Recycling Council (NRC) to purchase the new containers. NRC received



these grant funds from the Nebraska Environmental Trust, a beneficiary of the Nebraska Lottery.

The new sites are located in the parking lots of these stores:

- ▶ Hy-Vee, 1000 South 178th Street
- ▶ Fresh Thyme, 14949 Evans Plaza

The containers at these new locations are bright purple—the signature color of Ripple Glass. There are plans to "Ripple-ize" Omaha's other glass collection containers at the full service drop-off sites. Residents will then identify the bright purple container is for glass.

Two business districts have glass only recycling locations that the public may use. They are located at:

- ▶ 2725 North 62nd Street, part of the Benson business district

- ▶ 800 Douglas Street part of the Downtown Improvement District.

Including Omaha's five multi-material drop-off sites, there are now nine glass collection locations in Omaha. Because recycling compactor trucks break glass, curbside collection of glass was stopped in 2006. Broken glass is a hazard when sorting recyclables and a contaminant if not separated from other materials.

Glass collected in Omaha is shipped to Ripple's plant in Kansas City, Missouri. Brown glass is manufactured into new bottles by Ardagh. The remaining glass is made into Owens Corning fiberglass insulation.

O!



PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1086
OMAHA, NE

LEGAL NOTICE: Placement of solid waste (garbage, recyclable materials, and yardwaste) by a resident along a private owned street or road implies permission for the City's solid waste collection contractor to drive onto that street or road to perform contract work. Accordingly, such residents and owners of private streets and roads shall assume the risk of incidental damages incurred in the course of performing work while driving on the surface of these private streets and roads. Incidental damages may include cracks in the surface of the roadway or cave-ins due to collapsed sewers or poor street surface substrate. The City's contractor is not exempt from causal damages to personal property or premises adjoining private streets and roads. Please call the Solid Waste Hotline 402-444-5238 for questions or concerns about collection on private streets and roads.



Collection Missed?
Call 402-444-5238 after 7PM
on your collection day.

Because of state and federal laws, there are limits to the types of waste you may include in your garbage. Each household is limited to 5 properly prepared trash cans or clear bags of garbage per week.

Yes!‡



➤ Trash cans up to 32-gallon that weigh up to 45 pounds when full.

➤ Clear plastic bags that weigh up to 30 pounds when full.



➤ Up to 5 containers of garbage per week (example 2 trash cans and 3 bags).

➤ Place within 5 feet of curb, approved alley or other approved location.

Note: Trash cans and recycling bins must be removed from the curb by 10AM the day after collection. **!**

(Omaha Municipal Code, Chapter 18, Article X, Section 102)

No!

- A mixture of garbage and yardwaste.
- Items sticking out above the can.
- Christmas trees. Follow yardwaste collection rules.
- Rocks, dirt, and concrete.
- Dead animals.
- Any liquids.
- Loose pet waste or loose cat litter.
- Tires, engines, or other large auto parts.
- Bulky items (couches, chairs, stoves, etc.).
- Dark plastic bags that you can't see through.
- Motor oil and automotive batteries.
- Cardboard boxes (empty or full) when not in a can or bag.
- Items outside a can or clear bag.



Yardwaste

Set out before 6AM

There is no limit to the amount of properly prepared yardwaste that may be set out for collection. Place yardwaste within 5 feet of your collection location. Leave 2 feet of space between yardwaste and garbage containers.

Yardwaste is now collected all year long when properly prepared.

Yes!‡



➤ Grass clippings and leaves.

➤ Garden waste such as fallen apples, rotted or excess vegetables and fruit.

➤ Trash cans up to 32-gallon that weigh up to 45 pounds, marked with a **YW** on both sides.

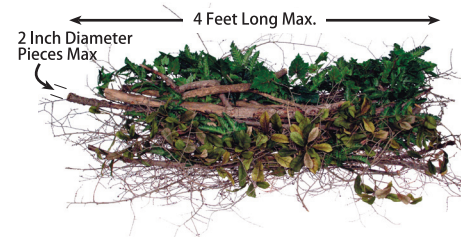


➤ Special yardwaste paper bags that weigh up to 40 pounds.

➤ Unlimited number of properly prepared marked cans, paper bags or brush bundles.

➤ Bundles of branches and brush, tied with string or twine. Bundles may weigh up to 30 pounds.

➤ Branches may be up to 2 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length.



No!

- Plastic bags used in yardwaste collection.
- Mixtures of yardwaste and garbage.
- Items sticking out above the can.
- Saw dust, lumber or treated lumber/wood.
- Litter, trash, or garbage.
- Whole cans of dirt or sod.
- Street sweeping sand, litter, or rocks.
- Cardboard boxes of yardwaste.
- Pet waste or kitty litter.
- Branches over 2 inches in diameter.
- Branches over 4 feet long.
- Plastic twine, nylon twine, or wire used to bundle brush or branches.
- Rope of any kind.
- Brush that is not bundled.

Yardwaste is now collected year-round when properly prepared.

Seasonally, yardwaste is collected in conjunction with garbage.

‡ Omaha Municipal Code, Chapter 33, Article II, Division 2.



Properly dispose of unwanted household, lawn, garden and automotive chemicals at **UnderTheSink**.

Operating hours are:

Wednesday 9:00AM-4:45PM

Thursday 9:00AM-6:15PM

Friday 9:00AM-4:45PM

Saturday **Call for an appointment**
402-444-sink [7465].

- Residential waste only.
- There is no charge.

www.underthesink.org

Holiday Collection Schedule through 2018

THERE ARE SIX HOLIDAYS observed by the City's solid waste collection contractor. When the holiday occurs during the work week, it delays collection for the rest of that week. Friday's collection will be on Saturday.

Yardwaste is now collected all year long. During the growing season a

separate truck collects yardwaste. During the rest of the year properly prepared yardwaste will still be collected, but it will go to the landfill.

Live Christmas trees are considered yardwaste. They must be prepared as yardwaste for collection or taken to a Christmas tree collection site. **!**

Solid Waste Holiday Collection Schedule

Holidays that delay collection by one day:

- Thanksgiving Day 2017: Thursday, November 23, 2017.
- Christmas Day 2017: Monday, December 25, 2017.
- New Year's Day 2018: Monday, January 1, 2017.
- Memorial Day: Monday, May 28, 2018.
- Independence Day: Wednesday, July 4, 2018.
- Labor Day: Monday, September 3, 2018.
- Thanksgiving Day 2018: Thursday, November 22, 2018.
- Christmas Day 2018: Tuesday, December 25, 2018.
- New Year's Day 2019: Tuesday, January 1, 2019.



Quotes Requoted

All is connected...no one thing can change by itself.

Paul Hawken, b. 1946
Environmentalist, entrepreneur,
and author,



House Numbers Required

HAVING HOUSE NUMBERS is a matter of public safety. They assist police and fire to respond to an emergency or in apprehending a suspect.

House numbers also help Waste Management with their collection and when responding to collection problems.

Omaha has an ordinance that requires house numbers on the alley side of houses in addition to the street side.

House numbers should be large enough to be seen from the street or

alley, and in a contrasting color from their background. Illuminated numbers that can be seen at night are an added benefit. Numbers that have been painted over should be replaced.

Every home should examine their house numbers to see if they will serve them in an emergency.

Remember, the life or home you save could be your own. **!**





Place Materials Out in Green Bin, Before 6AM.

(Do not use plastic bags)

Things like:

👍 Lay sack or box either inside bin, on top of bin, or next to your bin with the opening facing away from wind.

👍 Corrugated cardboard. Break down flat and place under bin. For lots of boxes, fold and stuff multiple boxes into one box. Set out next to recycling bin.

Styrofoam	Hardbound Books
Tissue Paper	Rubber Bands
Plastic Bags	Paper Plates
Diapers	



(Not in plastic bags)

👍 Gable top and Aseptic cartons including—juice boxes, milk cartons, juice cartons, and soup or broth boxes.

👍 Aluminum cans and Steel (tin) cans including—empty aerosol cans, empty and dry paint cans with lid removed. Tip: Place the top of food cans inside can and crimp closed.

👍 Plastic containers and packaging marked PETE ♻️1, HDPE ♻️2, V ♻️3, or PP ♻️5.

- ▶ Flattening bottles helps prevent litter.

- ▶ Caps and lids are OK.

Includes:

- Bottles
- Cups
- Snap top container
- Clamshell deli containers
- Cookie trays
- DVD cases
- Clear plastic packaging
- Microwave meal trays

👍 Use a paper bag or a small box to hold extra recyclables.

 **NO! Don't recycle these plastic items, no matter what:** Toys, plastic bags, motor oil bottles, lawn chemical bottles, or hazardous chemical bottles

 **NO!** Glass bottles or jars.
(visit www.OmahaRecycles.com to find
a drop-off site)



Plastic Bottles, Cups, Caps, Lids, Food Containers and Packaging with numbers:



 Do not place bags of garbage on top of the recycling bin!

Collection Pointers

- ▶ Place all materials at your collection point before 6AM.
- ▶ If your collection is missed, call 402-444-5238 after 7PM on your collection day.
- ▶ Leave a couple feet of space between your yardwaste, recyclables, and garbage containers.
- ▶ Keep your garbage dry—use plastic bags or trash cans with lids.
- ▶ One cap full of household ammonia poured in to each garbage container will deter animals from investigating and searching for food in your garbage.
- ▶ Use clear trash bags.



Within 5 feet of curb or alley.

Collection problems: 402–444–5238

Garbage: Up to 5 containers

**Metal or plastic can with handles.
32 gallon, 45 pound max.**

**Clear plastic.
30 pounds max.
Tie shut.**

Recycling: Must use bin

**No plastic bags.
No glass.
Paper in paper bag or box.
Flatten cardboard boxes.**

Yardwaste:
No container limit

**Metal or plastic can with handles.
32 gallon, 45 pound max.
Marked YW.**

**Paper bags only
40 pounds max.**

Leave space between

Bundle with string.  

4 feet long max.

2 inch diameter branches max.

30 pounds max.

Set out before 6AM

Free

ONE DAY ONLY

USED TIRE

Collection Event

OPEN TO ALL OMAHA AND DOUGLAS COUNTY RESIDENTS

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 21, 2017

8AM to 3PM

No early or after-hours dumping

Violators will be prosecuted.

Levi Carter Park

Parking Lot on Carter Lake Shore Drive North

Car, motorcycle, and small truck tires accepted.

NO tires with rims • NO business tires

NO tire retailers or auto shops

Please be prepared to unload your own tires.

Recycling Bin Distribution

REPLACEMENT and additional recycling bins are available. Households that receive City of Omaha solid waste collection service, may get a bin from one of these locations.

These locations also have the bright orange card you need to recycle your recycling bin if it is damaged.

Please note that holidays will affect the schedule of each location.

Saddlebrook Branch Library	
14850 Laurel Avenue	
Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday	
8:00AM – 8:00PM	
Friday	8:00AM – 5:00PM
Saturday	9:00AM – 4:00PM
Sunday	CLOSED

A. V. Sorensen Branch Library	
4808 Cass Street	
Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	10:00AM – 8:00PM
Wednesday	10:00AM – 6:00PM
Thursday	10:00AM – 8:00PM
Friday and Saturday	
10:00AM – 6:00PM	
Sunday	CLOSED

Bess Johnson Elkhorn Branch Library	
2100 Reading Plaza	
Monday through Thursday	
9:00AM – 8:00PM	
Friday and Saturday	
9:00AM – 6:00PM	
Sunday	CLOSED

South Omaha Branch Library	
2808 “Q” Street	
Monday through Thursday	
7:30AM – 9:00PM	
Friday and Saturday	
9:00AM – 6:00PM	
Sunday	CLOSED

Charles B. Washington Branch Library	
2868 Ames Avenue	
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday	
9:00AM – 8:00PM	
Thursday, Friday and Saturday	
9:00AM – 6:00PM	
Sunday	CLOSED

Milton R. Abrahams Branch Library	
5111 North 90TH Street	
Monday through Thursday	
9:00AM – 9:00PM	
Friday and Saturday	
9:00AM – 6:00PM	
Sunday	1:00PM – 6:00PM

UnderTheSink, Special Waste Facility	
4001 South 120th Street	
Drive around building to parking lot and enter office.	
Wednesday	9:00AM – 4:45PM
Thursday	9:00AM – 6:15PM
Friday	9:00AM – 4:45PM
Saturday	9:00AM – NOON

From this to this!





Solid Waste Assistance



Special collection for garbage, yardwaste and recyclables is available. Households where all occupants of the home have a medical disability, or are at least age 70, qualify for the service.

It takes several weeks to get the service set up.

To apply, call 402-444-5238 from 8AM to 8PM weekdays.

Recycling Drop-off Sites

RECYCLING GLASS and the occasional extra bunch of recyclables is easy. Five full service drop-off sites accept glass and all the same materials as your green bin.

Full Service drop-off sites consist of two or more large containers. Glass bottles will go in one container and all the other recyclables go in a separate container. Keeping glass separate from

the other recyclables is all the sorting you will need to do.

There are four glass only drop-off sites with just one container to collect glass bottles and jars.

Illegal dumping at drop-off sites is punishable by a fine of up to \$500, loss of drivers license for 6 months and all clean up costs.

[Omaha Municipal Code, Chapter 34, ARTICLE I, Section 4.]



Full Service Recycling Sites All Recyclables Accepted

West:	Western Douglas County Chamber of Commerce	Northeast:	Parking Lot
	20801 Elkhorn Drive		2574 Douglas Street
	Open: Daily, 7AM – 7PM		Open: Daily, 7AM – 7PM
Northwest:	Parking Lot	Southeast:	River City Recycling
	North 75TH and Corby Streets		6404 South 60TH Street
	Open: Daily, 7AM – 7PM		(Between Harrison & “Q” Streets)
			Open: Monday – Friday: 8AM – 4:30PM
Southwest:	Firststar Fiber		Saturday: 8AM – NOON (Winter)
	10330 “I” Street, east entrance.		Monday – Saturday: 8AM – 4:30PM
	Open: Daily, 7AM – 7PM		(Spring, Summer, Fall)



Glass Only Recycling Sites

West Central:	HyVee	Benson: †	Benson Livery
	1000 S 178th Street		2725 North 62nd Street
	Open: Daily, 7AM – 7PM		Open: Daily, 7AM – 7PM
Northwest:	Fresh Thyme	Downtown: ‡	Heartland Park
	14949 Evans Plaza		800 Douglas Street
	Open: Daily, 7AM – 7PM		Open: Daily, 7AM – 7PM

† Sponsored by Benson Business District
‡ Sponsored by Downtown Improvement District

Worth Noting

Apparently people like to read books made of paper and ink instead of a glowing electronic screen. More than two to one!

US Census bureau reports bookstore sales increase 0.2% to \$5.06 billion in the first half of 2017.

Print books accounted for seven out of 10 books sold in the USA in 2016, including all audio and e-books.

Paper and ink book sales have increased for the last three years to \$12.3 billion. While e-book sales have fallen over the same period.